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November 26, 2003

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a
NSTAR Electric, D.T.E. 02-80B, Proposed Procedural Schedule

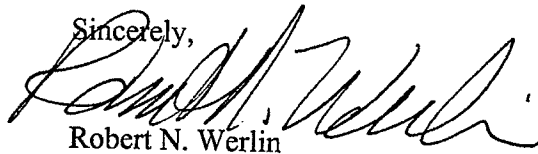
Dear Secretary Cottrell:

On October 24, 2003, the Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric (the "Companies") and the Attorney General (together, the "Parties") filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department") a proposed procedural schedule designed to permit the Parties to engage in settlement discussions, with a December 1st target date for filing a settlement. Since then, the Parties have been actively engaged in settlement negotiations. The Companies have provided the Attorney General with voluminous documentation, which took some time to gather and will take some time for the Attorney General to evaluate.

The Parties continue to believe that a settlement of most, if not all, issues in this matter remains highly likely, but that more time is needed to complete negotiations and prepare settlement documents. Accordingly, the Parties jointly request that the Department suspend the procedural schedule and permit settlement negotiations to proceed. The Parties request that they be permitted either to file a Settlement Agreement with the Department no later than January 9, 2004 or to report back by that date on the status of settlement negotiations.

Should you have any questions concerning the status of the ongoing settlement discussions between the Companies and the Attorney General, please do not hesitate to contact me or Judith Laster at 617-727-2200, extension 3431. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert N. Werlin

cc: Caroline Bulger, Hearing Officer
Service List